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Children's Television Obligations of Commercial Television Broadcasters August 1 Deadline for Filing Requests for Preemption Flexibility

On September 29, 2006, the FCC released a *Second Order on Reconsideration and Second Report and Order* ("*Second Order*") regarding the children's television obligations of digital television broadcasters. In the *Second Order*, the Commission reinstituted a procedure for networks to seek informal approval by the FCC's Media Bureau of their plans regarding preemption of core children's television programming each year. The *Second Order* provides that such requests are to be filed by August 1 each year. The Commission stated it would issue a Public Notice once the preemption flexibility procedure has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB").

We hereby notify broadcasters that OMB has approved the preemption flexibility procedure adopted in the *Second Order*. Accordingly, networks seeking preemption flexibility may file a request with the Media Bureau by August 1, 2007. This August 1 filing date will also apply in subsequent years to future preemption flexibility requests.

For additional information, contact Kim Matthews, kim.matthews@fcc.gov, of the Media Bureau, Policy Division, (202) 418-2154.

¹ Second Order on Reconsideration and Second Report and Order, In the Matter of Children's Television Obligations of Digital Television Broadcasters, MM Docket No. 00-167, 21 FCC Rcd 11065 (2006) ("Second Order").

 $^{^{2}}$ Id. at 11076-77, ¶ 28.

³ *Id*.

⁴ *Id.* at 11085, ¶ 53.

⁵ OMB Control No. 3060-0011 (June 1, 2007).